

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 180 - SB 615

March 10, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires healthcare providers to ensure certain patients admitted to a facility and in their care are provided access to, or contact information for, a qualified mental health professional or mental health counseling resource prior to the patient's discharge from the facility.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (004631): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires a healthcare provider to record in a patient's medical chart, a recent threat or attempt at suicide or infliction of bodily harm expressed by the patient, if the patient is admitted to a licensed healthcare facility or seeking services from an emergency department. Requires a facility to provide the patient, when discharged, contact information to access a qualified mental health professional or counseling resource, unless the patient is discharged to another facility. Establishes the referral requirement is satisfied by providing contact information for this state's mobile crisis services or the statewide crisis hotline.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation will not have a significant impact on the policies or procedures of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS); therefore, any fiscal impact to DMHSAS is not significant.
- Based on information provided by the Division of TennCare (Division), referring patients with behavioral health needs to qualified providers is current standard practice and will not result in a significant increase in utilization; therefore, any fiscal impact to the Division is estimated to be not significant.
- Any necessary rule changes by boards under the Division of Health-Related Boards can be accommodated within the appropriate board's regularly-scheduled meetings at no additional cost.

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Boards had an annual surplus of \$2,524,075 in FY18-19, an annual surplus of \$1,107,948 in FY19-20, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$34,229,587 on June 30, 2020.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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